

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Erik Preston on May 11, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. **Claim 10** is rewritten as:

- - A liquid crystal display device comprising:

a plastic substrate comprising:

a composite substrate in which fibers are embedded in a resin matrix, the fibers being arranged to extend in two nearly orthogonal predetermined directions within a plane of the composite substrate;

a liquid crystal layer; and

a polarizer, which is arranged such that the absorption axis of the polarizer is either substantially parallel or substantially perpendicular to the at least one of the two nearly orthogonal predetermined directions in which the fibers are arranged; wherein

the composite substrate substantially transmits visible radiation, and is arranged as a quarter-wave plate. - -.

3. **Claim 7** is rewritten as:

- - The plastic substrate of the liquid crystal display device of claim 10, wherein the fibers are embedded in the resin matrix as a bundle of fibers, a woven fabric or a nonwoven fabric. - -.

4. **Claim 8** is rewritten as:

- - The plastic substrate of the liquid crystal display device of claim 10, further comprising a protective coating on at least one principal surface of the composite substrate. - -.

5. On page 1 of the Specification: The header "DESCRIPTION" at the top of the page is deleted.

6. On page 1 of the Specification: New line:

- - This application is a 371 of PCT/JP03/15748 filed December 9th, 2003. - -
is inserted as Line 1.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The previously cited closest prior art of record, US 5,763,054, fails to fairly teach or suggest, even in view of US 3,137,601, US 5,730,922 and US 6,503,831, the liquid crystal display device recited above. None of the references teach that the composite substrate is arranged in a configuration to function as a quarter wave plate in the liquid crystal display device (See Specification, 2nd paragraph of page 26 and 1st paragraph of page 27).

Newly cited US 7,242,453, which has one common inventor: Noriko Watanabe, and a common assignee: Sharp Kabushiki Kaisha, also fails to teach or suggest that the composite substrate is arranged in a configuration to function as a quarter wave plate in the liquid crystal display device.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number (571)272-1492. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample, can be reached on (571)272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Sophie Hon/

Sow-Fun Hon

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1783